

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-45 are pending in the application. Claims 1-45 have been rejected.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action has rejected claims 1-12 and 14-45 as being anticipated by Minard (U.S. Patent 6,247,020, hereafter, "Minard"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection for the reasons set forth in the Response dated October 6, 2003 and for the additional reason that Minard is not prior art to the instant patent application. The instant patent application claims the benefit of U.S. Serial Number 08/888,925, now U.S. Patent 6,259,445, which was filed on July 7, 1997.

The Patent Statute provides that an application for patent for an invention disclosed in the manner provided by the first paragraph of section 112 which is filed by an inventor or inventors named in the previously filed application shall have the same effect as though filed on the date of the prior application if filed before the patenting or abandonment of or termination of proceedings on the first application if it contains a reference to the earlier filed application. 35 U.S.C. §120. In the instant case the application includes a reference to the earlier-filed application having serial number 08/888,925 which was filed July 7, 1997 and issued as U.S. Patent Number 6,259,445 B1 on July 10, 2001. The instant application was filed on December 4, 2000. Therefore the applications shared a period of copendency as required by the statute and hence all subject matter claimed in the instant application that find support in the earlier-filed application is entitled to the benefit of the July 7, 1997 filing date of the prior application.

Applicants are providing a set of claim charts showing the support in the specification of the 6,259,445 patent for the independent claims of the instant patent application. These claim charts are not to be interpreted as limiting the scope of the subject claims.

Claim 1 is supported by the earlier-filed specification as shown below.

1. A method, performed in a web-based environment on a computer system, of helping a user learn to implement an application, the method comprising:	United States Patent Number 6,259,445B1 issued to Hennum et al.
providing a predetermined plurality of applications;	Col. 1, lines 10-12; col. 6, line 9
presenting an annotation page that includes one or more annotations descriptive of a source file of a predetermined application, each annotation including keyword links, annotation links, and detail of implementation of the application;	Col. 5, lines 67 et seq.
permitting the user to select a link in an annotation;	Col. 6, lines 35-36; col. 7, lines 18-22
if the user selects a keyword link, presenting reference documentation associated with that keyword; and	Col. 7, lines 49-52
if the user selects an annotation link, presenting another annotation descriptive of another source file of a predetermined application.	Col. 7, lines 24-41

Minard was filed on December 17, 1997. Therefore, Minard is not prior art to claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and the rejection should be withdrawn. Claims 2-28 all depend on claim 1 and are thus patentable over Minard for the same reasons as discussed with respect to claim 1.

Below we show how claims 29, 30 31, 32 and 45 are supported by the specification of the earlier-filed Hennum patent.

29. A method, performed in a web-based environment on a computer system, of teaching user to implement an application, the method comprising:	United States Patent Number 6,259,445B1 issued to Hennum et al.
providing a predetermined plurality of applications;	Col. 1, lines 10-12; col. 6, line 9
performing a predetermined application; and	Col. 1, lines 52 et seq.; col. 3, line 65- col. 4, line 14.
presenting an annotation page descriptive of a performed application in coordination with performance of the predetermined application, the annotation page including detail of application implementation and links to annotations and reference documentation.	Col. 4, line 2 et seq.

Therefore, Minard is not prior art to claim 29.

30. A method, performed in a web-based environment on a computer system, of teaching a user to implement an application, the method comprising:	United States Patent Number 6,259,445B1 issued to Hennum et al.
automatically assembling a global table of contents based on content in the environment, the global table of contents including a plurality of links to content within the environment;	See Fig. 9
providing the global table of contents;	See Fig. 9
generating a local table of contents that includes links to content that orient the user within a local topic; and	See Fig. 9, item 80
permitting the user to select links from the local table of contents to access local topics.	See Fig. 9, item 80

Therefore, Minard is not prior art to claim 30.

31. A method, performed in a web-based environment on a computer system, of teaching a user to implement an application, the method comprising:	United States Patent Number 6,259,445B1 issued to Hennum et al.
providing a plurality of predefined interactive examples;	Col. 4, lines 36-45.
performing one or more of the predefined interactive examples in response to user selection;	Col. 4, lines 42-43.
presenting one or more annotations descriptive of the performed interactive example in coordination with performance of the predefined interactive example; and	Col. 4, lines 49-50.
allowing the user to selectively explore different aspects of the performed interactive example, the annotations, or both.	Col. 4, lines 57-59.

Therefore, Minard is not prior art to claim 31.

32. A web-based computer system for teaching a user to implement an application, the system comprising:	United States Patent Number 6,259,445B1 issued to Hennum et al.
one or more predefined interactive applications, a predefined interactive application selectively executable by the user of the web-based computer system; and	Col. 13, lines 38-92
an annotation page including one or more annotations, in which the annotation page describes a predefined interactive application, and the annotation page further includes: one or more links, and detail of implementation of the application, in which different annotations are automatically provided in the annotation page in response to selective execution of a predefined interactive application.	Figs. 7-17 and 19, and related discussion.

Therefore, Minard is not prior art to claim 32. Claims 33-44 all depend on claim 32 and are thus patentable over Minard for the same reasons as discussed with respect to claim 32.

45. A web-based computer system for teaching a user to implement an application, the system comprising:	United States Patent Number 6,259,445B1 issued to Hennum et al.
a web-browser window that includes a content frame, a framework applet, and a table of contents frame that displays a global table of contents hierarchy of links related to content in the content frame;	Col. 13, lines 38-42.
one or more annotations displayed in the content frame, each annotation describing a predefined interactive application and including links to other content; and	Figs. 16A-16E.
a table of contents window that displays a local table of contents hierarchy of links related to local content in the displayed annotation.	Fig. 7

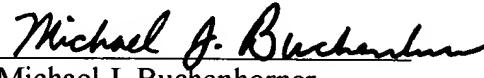
Therefore, Minard is not prior art to claim 45.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office Action rejected claim 13 as unpatentable over Minard in view of Sutter (U. S. Patent 5,924,094). This rejection should be withdrawn for the reasons discussed with respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,


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I hereby certify that this Amendment and Response to Office Action, and any documents referred to as attached therein are being deposited in the U. S. Post Office as first-class mail on this date, March 15, 2004, to the Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


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Date: March 15, 2004

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